

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) No Water supply scheme with cost involvement of Rs. 1200 crore has been received from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh.

#### **Sunderban as National Waterway**

5744. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the West Bengal Government approached the Union Government some time back for declaring the portion of Ganga passing through Sunderbans area in that State as "National Waterway"

(b) if so, the decision taken by the Government in the matter, when it has already declared the cauvery National Waterway; and

(c) The difficulties which lie in the way of Government in doing the needful, particularly when this area is poverty-ridden and the declaration of National Waterway could provide some means of livelihood to its residents ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Kaveri river has not been declared as National Waterway. The proposal for declaration, of the steamer route in Sundarbans from Rangafala channel to Beharighal-Raimangal river confluence, as National Waterway has been formulated and is under process. The Environmental Impact assessment and Environment Management Plan studies have been completed. The clearance from authorities concerned of West Bengal Govt. is being obtained.

#### **Malpractices in Technical Institutions**

5745. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that some of the educational institutions approved by All India Council of Technical Education are indulging in malpractices;

(b) Whether the Government are aware that hotel management courses are offered by three categories of educational institutions – institutions run by National Council for Hotel Management and Catering Technology, self-financing colleges affiliated to respective Universities and Institutions which do not fall under above categories

but simply 'approved' by AICTE (for infrastructural facilities) and no affiliated to universities or recognised by State Technical Boards;

(c) if so, whether the Government would like to have a through checking and save the time and money of our young generation being given to these institutions which are not approved by the Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (d) As per the information furnished by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), no incidence of any malpractices in any institute approved by it has come to its notice. The performance of these approved institutes is periodically monitored by the Council. Existing Hotel Management and Catering Technology Institutions are affiliated either to concerned University, State Technical Board or National Council for Hotel Management and Catering Technology. All self-financing colleges approved by AICTE fall under categories only.

[Translation]

#### **Memorandum by Nurses Union**

5746. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received some memoranda or representations, from the nurses and the office bearers of their Unions working in various Government hospitals of the Capital, regarding the acceptance of their demands during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof including their demands;

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the reasons for the delay in this regard and the time by which these demands are likely to be accepted?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The demands of nurses inter-alia include change of colour of uniform from white to camel colour, better promotional avenues, filling up of vacant posts, accommodation facilities etc.

(c) and (d) A High Powered Committee under the Chairpersonship of a retired Delhi High Court Judge has been constituted to look into the matter of change of colour

of uniform. For meeting the requirement of residential accommodation, construction of a housing colony for nurses at Srinivaspuri, New Delhi has been entrusted to the Hospital Services Consultancy Corporation Ltd., a Government of India undertaking. Career progression and staffing pattern of Government employees including nurses are governed by Government rules.

[English]

#### Indira Awas Yojana

5747. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has forwarded a proposal to get Rs. 2500 crores for 12 fluoride affected Districts and Rs. 242 crores for construction of 1.5 lakhs houses under the Indira Awas Yojana;

(b) if so, whether after Review meeting with the State Panchayat Raj Minister and the A.P. Government the Union Minister had examined the issue;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken/being taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected from the State Government and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Expansion of Vishwabharti

5748. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any specific proposal was received from Vishwabharti for its expansion and development during the Seventh and Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount allocated and utilised for the purpose; and

(e) the progress made in expansion of Vishwabharti?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (c) A proposal for establishment of 'VISVASIA', a Centre for the study of Asian Civilisations, was received from Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, during January, 1996. As the

proposal was silent about the specific aspects of the proposed Institute and the requirement of funds for the project, Visva-Bharati was advised to have a detailed project report prepared to enable the Government to take further action in the matter. A blue print of the project report 'envisaging an estimated expenditure of Rs. 35.00 crore during Phase-I, coterminous with the 9th Plan period, has been received by the Government only on 24th April, 1997. No assistance for the project could, therefore, be allocated during the 8th Plan.

#### Import of AIDS Drugs

5749. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Import of AIDS drugs not allowed" appearing in the Sunday Observer dated March 3, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Lamuvidine and Saquinavir are 'new drugs' which require safety and efficacy studies to be conducted in the country before registration as per Schedule 'Y' of Drugs and Cosmetic Act, 1948 and Rules thereunder. Import of these drugs is allowed on personal licence issued on the basis of prescription of the doctor AZT is available within the Country.

#### Drinking Water Facility in M.P. and Gujarat

5750. SHRI VISHVESHWAR BHAGAT :

SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the existing facilities provided for supply of drinking water in rural areas and prominent cities in Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat are inadequate;

(b) if so, whether any proposals have been received in this regard from the Government of Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat; and

(c) if so, the steps taken or proposal of be taken for providing funds for this purpose particularly for rural areas, details thereof ?